

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification to read as follows:

Paragraph bridging page 19 and 20:

C The trailing end of each bone dowel is preferably anatomically configured to utilize the apophyseal rim bone around the perimeter of each vertebral body to help support the bone dowels. Examples of such configurations are in applicant's co-pending U.S. Application Serial No. 09/263,266, filed March 5, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,241,770, and entitled "Implant with Anatomically Conformed Trailing End," the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Page 20, second full paragraph:

C2 The bone dowel of the present invention may also be adapted to receive opposed, vertebral body engaging screws of cortical bone, bioresorbable material, or other material suitable for human implantation through its trailing end. Examples of such screws are in applicant's co-pending U.S. Application Serial No. ~~09/556,055~~09/566,055, filed May 5, 2000, entitled "Screws of Cortical Bone and Method of Manufacture Thereof," the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.
